(b) if so, what special funding policy Government proposes to adopt in order to meet such expenses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) National Curriculum Framework 2005 has recommended that Health and Physical Education must continue as a compulsory subject from primary to the secondary stages and as an optional subject at higher secondary stage of education. Accordingly, physical education is taught as a compulsory curriculum in classes I to XII in schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education. Games and sports and yoga are an integral part of the physical education curriculum.

(b) No special funding policy has been proposed for this purpose.

Fee hikes in IIMs

3558. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of steep hike in fees announced by Indian Institutes of Managements especially IIM, Ahmedabad, effecting a three-fold increase from Rs. 2.00 lakhs to Rs. 6.00 lakhs per year;

(b) whether such a move would incapacitate the poor from SC/ST/OBC students securing admission in IIMs; and

(c) to what extent Government has reconciled to the decision of IIM managements on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The IIM Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.C. Bhargava have submitted an Interim Report on 4th April, 2008 to the Government to ask all the Indian Institutes of management (IIMs) to defer any increase in fee and keep it at the level of December 2007 (*i.e.* at Rs. 3 lakhs or less as the case may be) till such time as the Committee submits its Final Report to the Government. The same has been forwarded to all the Chairman of IIMs.

Committee to look into fee structure in higher education

3559. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up an expert committee to look into various aspects concerning the fee structure in higher education and thus arrive at a strategy whereby the fee for higher education is neither ridiculously low nor poses a barrier in equitable access to higher education;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also recommended that fee structure should be revised to cover up to 20 per cent of the operational costs; and